

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



MUNITIONS  
TEST ACTIVITY  
KRASNOARMEYSK  
USSR

NOVEMBER 1968

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7 PAGES

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## MUNITIONS TEST ACTIVITY, KRASNOARMEYSK, USSR

Analysis of munitions test facilities at Krasnoarmeysk, about 28 nautical miles (nm) north-northeast of Moscow, indicates that the Soviets may be developing or testing an improved form of conventional weapons. Two circular static test arrays, the first of this type identified in the USSR, appear similar to arrays used by the U.S. for testing a controlled-fragmentation munition. In addition, numerous small ground scars observed in a probable impact area may possibly have resulted from test firings of artillery rounds or rocket warheads utilizing controlled-fragmentation submissiles.

The munitions test facilities are within the Krasnoarmeysk Solid Motor and Munitions Development Facility [redacted] located one nm north-northeast of Krasnoarmeysk (Figure 1). The installation, which is secured by a fence, occupies an area approximately 15 by 3.6 nm.\* It consists of extensive munitions test facilities, the Solid Motor Development Facility, and a housing and support area (Figure 2).

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The munitions test facilities include a probable controlled-fragmentation test area, a fragmentation test area, a probable munitions static test facility, a weapons firing range, and a probable impact area. These facilities are located on both sides of a wooded strip which extends the length of the installation. The test facilities are located on the north side of the strip and the weapons firing range and probable impact area are located on the south side. All of these areas except the Probable Munitions Static Test Facility were present on the first interpretable photograph of the facility [redacted]

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\*NPIC [redacted] Krasnoarmeysk Missile Research and Development Facility, USSR, Dec 67 (TOP SECRET [redacted])

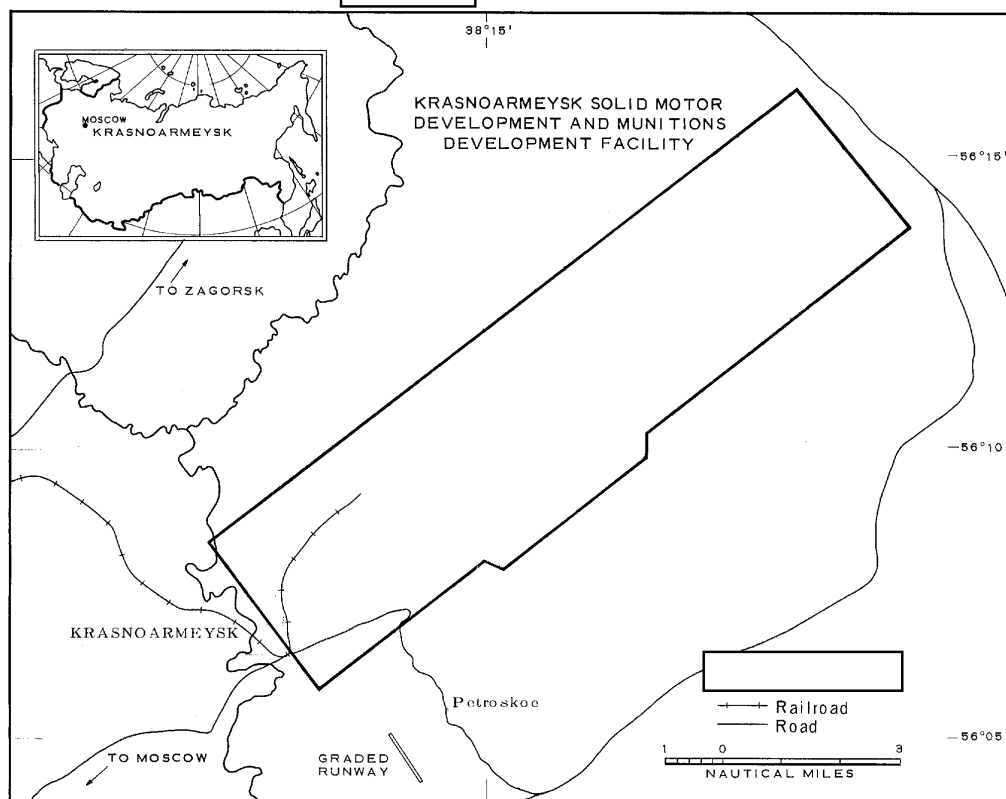


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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The Probable Controlled-Fragmentation Test Area (Figure 3) is the only test area separately secured by a wall. Included in the area are two probable controlled-fragmentation test arrays, three small single-walled circular fragmentation test cells varying from [ ] feet in diameter, a large double-walled circular fragmentation test cell 50 feet in diameter, a control bunker for the area, and a possible velocity range. The area was first observed [ ] and appeared very active [ ]. The first construction activity on the larger probable controlled-fragmentation test array was observed [ ].

Each test array consists of a center post and four concentric circles of probable fragment collection panels. One array is 130 feet, the other 70 feet in diameter. The probable fragment collection panels in these arrays are approximately [ ] and of undetermined thickness. The panels appear to be arranged in such a manner that no single panel shields another when viewed from the center of the array (Figure 4). This type of test array provides a means of measuring the effectiveness of a fragmentation munition.

The Fragmentation Test Area was first observed [ ]

[ ] Some of the larger cell walls are encompassed by revetments. In the area of the westernmost group of fragmentation test cells, a derelict Fishbed (MIG-21) aircraft, disassembled aircraft components, and a few derelict vehicles or pieces of equipment were seen for the first time [ ].

An unidentified test facility is located in the eastern portion of the Fragmentation Test Area. This facility consists of a circular arena 550 feet in diameter and a control site 500 feet southwest of the arena. The control site is revetted and contains two buildings, with a small possible instrumentation building immediately outside the revetment.

The circular arena contains 12 shallow trenches which radiate from the center like spokes of a wheel but do not appear to connect at the center. These trenches divide half the arena into four equal segments and the remaining half into eight segments (Figure 6). Also within the arena are 21 rows of unidentified material, apparently rectangular panels of various sizes, lying flat on the ground adjacent to the trenches.

The circular arena appeared to be in the early stages of construction [ ]. Four of the "spokes" were observed. When the area was snow covered [ ] the trenches could not be discerned but a revetment which circled the outer extremity of the test area was observed [ ]. The arena appeared complete. The only other unusual characteristics were observed [ ]. [ ] a period of relatively high activity, when a few of the trenches extended approximately 100 feet farther from the center than the rest.

The Probable Munitions Static Test Facility (Figure 2) consists of two rectangular cleared areas, one on either side of the wooded strip. The first construction activity at the northern area was observed [ ]. [ ] the area appeared to have been enlarged [ ] and further enlarged [ ]. The area is probably used for static tests, although the type of tests conducted here have not been determined. A tower [ ] is near the center, and another towerlike object is observed in the eastern portion of the area. Extensive ground scarring is visible in the area.

The southern area was under construction [ ] and appeared to be in use [ ]. The area extends 1,850 by 450 feet and no towers or structures are observed in it. A blockhouse-type control or observation building is located next to the access road north of the cleared area. The type of tests conducted here cannot be determined; however, the location south of the wooded divider strip would allow its use as an impact area for live-fire tests.

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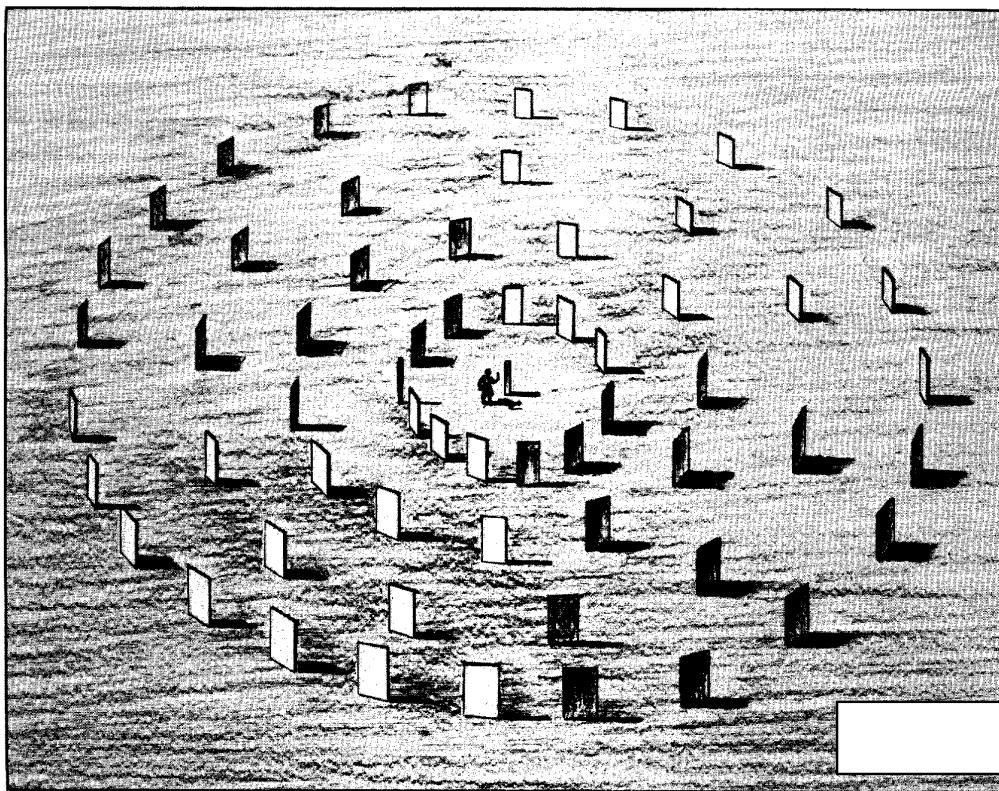


FIGURE 4. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF PROBABLE CONTROLLED-FRAGMENTATION TEST ARRAY.

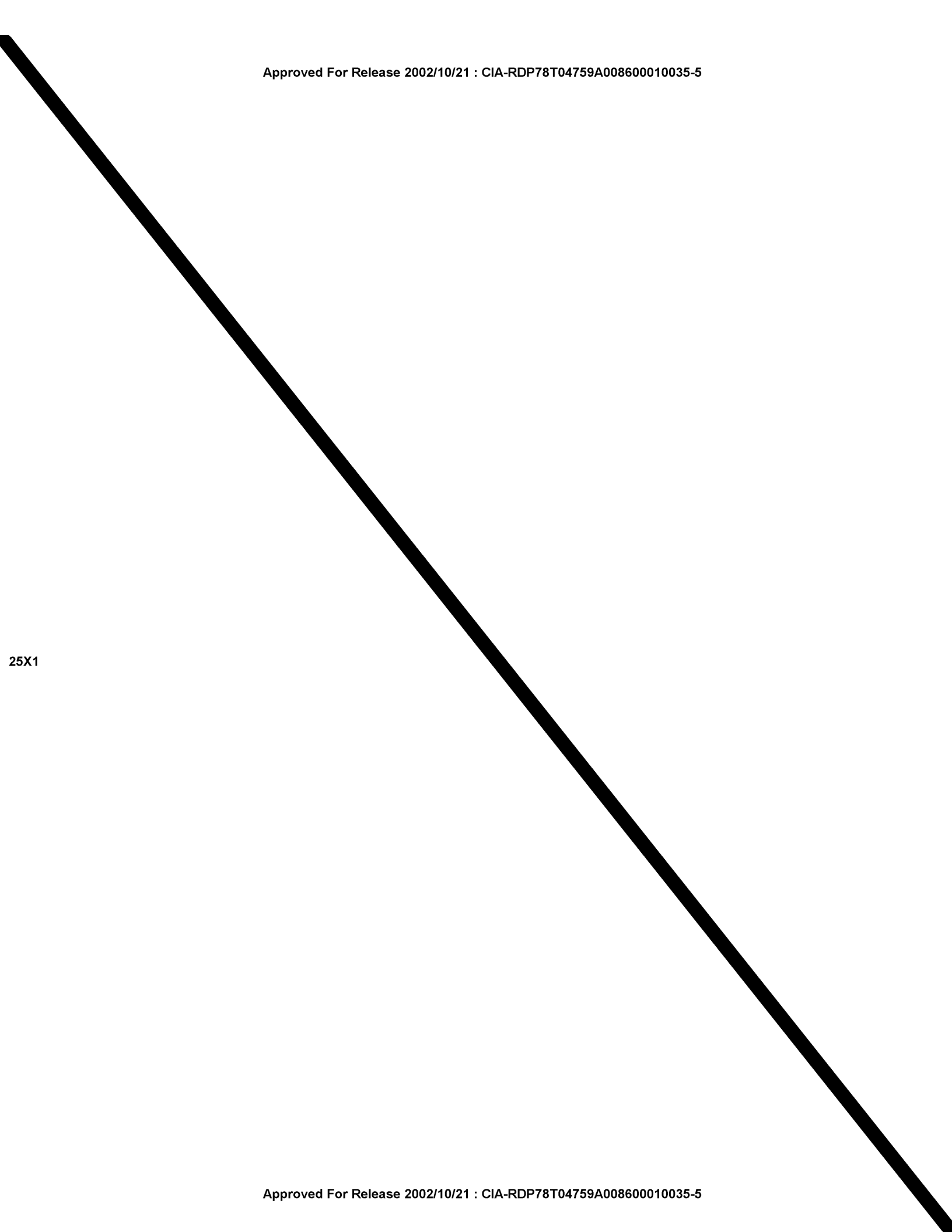
The Weapons-Firing Range, present [REDACTED] consists of a firing line with approximately 15 weapons positions, four range-control buildings, and several possible instrumentation sites.

The Probable Impact Area is located approximately 8 nm downrange of the weapons-firing range. It contains a large cleared area, measuring 1,250 by 780 feet, a smaller rectangular cleared area that does not appear to be in use, and several small unidentified structures.

[REDACTED] This area was cleared when the facility was first observed [REDACTED] and was later allowed to become overgrown with vegetation [REDACTED] several hundred small ground scars were observed south and west of the raked area (Figure 5). These scars may possibly have resulted from the live-fire testing of artillery rounds or rocket warheads that utilize submissiles.

Numerous old shell craters are observed in the downrange area. These craters appear overgrown with vegetation and no recent shell craters have been observed.

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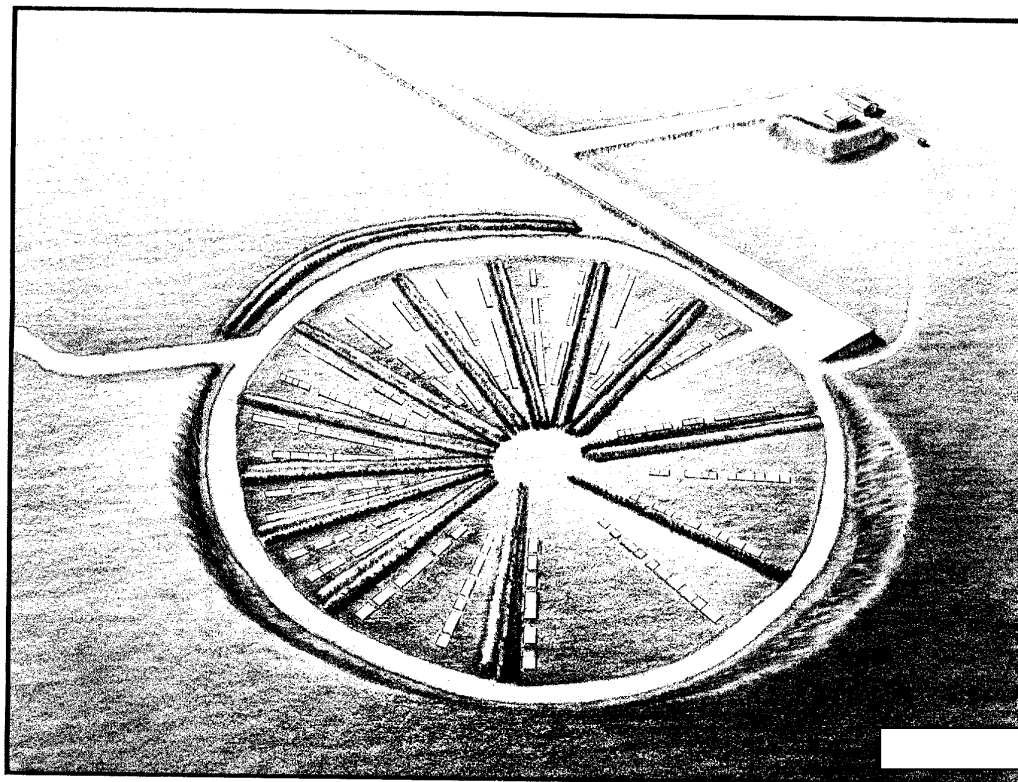


FIGURE 6. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF UNIDENTIFIED TEST FACILITY.



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